

# STATE MARINE OF PORT ARTHUR

EPA ID# TXD099801102

Site ID: 0602444

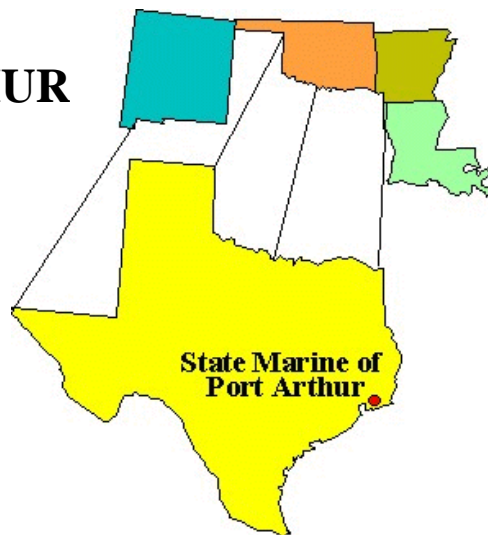
EPA REGION 6

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 9

Jefferson County, Texas

Updated: April 28, 2005

Next Update: September 2005



## Site Description

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- Location: ● The State Marine of Port Arthur Superfund Site (hereinafter “the Site”) is located in Port Arthur, Texas, on Old Yacht Club Road on Pleasure Islet, a peninsula located approximately 0.5 mile southwest of the mouth of the Neches River where it enters the Sabine-Neches Canal. The Site is located along Sabine Lake, a 100 square mile lake which opens into the Gulf of Mexico.
- Population ● Approximately 60,953 people reside in Port Arthur. Other communities in the area include Groves, Nederland, and Port Neches.
- Setting: ● The land use surrounding the Site is mostly industrial and recreational. Redfish, drum, speckled trout, and croaker are abundant in Sabine Lake. Crabbing is excellent year-round.
- Hydrology: ● The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study being planned for the Site by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will determine the hydrology for the Site, including other Site characteristics.

## Wastes and Volumes

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- Sampling results from an Expanded Site Inspection, performed by the State in 1995, indicated the presence of organic and inorganic contaminants in the buried surface impoundments, the former tank area, an area of contaminated soils adjacent to the shoreline of Sabine Lake, and the sediments of Sabine Lake.
- Some of the organic contaminants present at the Site include anthracene, phenanthrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(a)pyrene, pyrene, chrysene, and naphthalene. Tributyltin (TBT) may also be present at the Site. TBT is an antifouling paint additive frequently used in barge cleaning operations similar to those historically performed at the Site.
- Some of the inorganic contaminants present at the Site include antimony, lead,

- and mercury.
- The nature and extent of contamination at the Site and the risks posed to human health and the environment from the contaminants present at the Site are unknown.

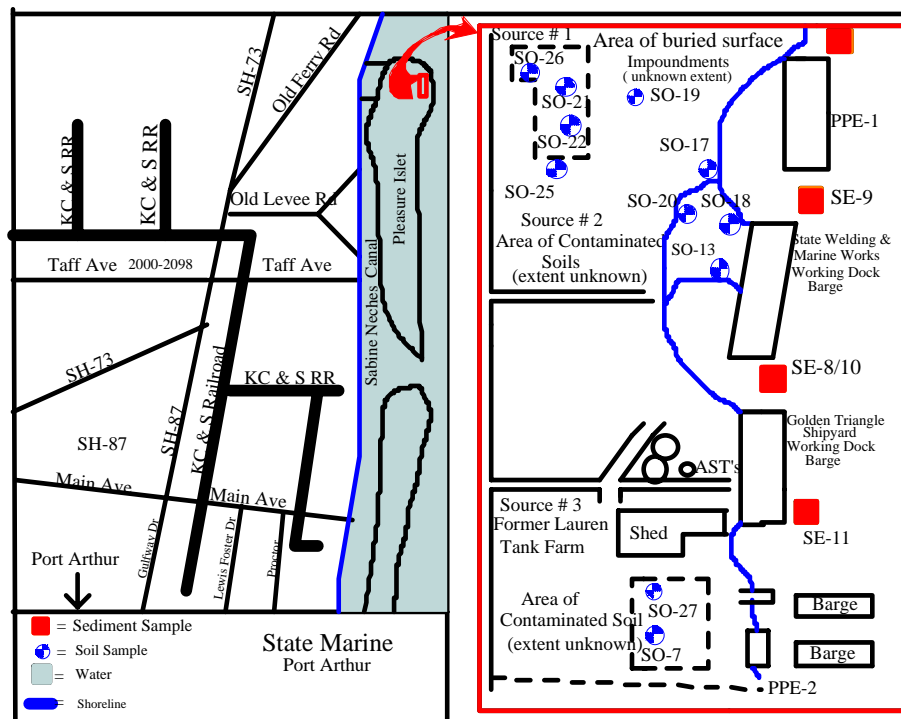
## Site Assessment and Ranking

### NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 3/06/98

Final Date: 7/28/98

## Site Map and Diagram



View site photos at the link at the bottom of the “Superfund Site Status Summaries for Texas” web page (<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/6sf-tx.htm>).

## The Remediation Process

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### Site History:

- In 1974, State Marine was issued a wastewater discharge permit from the State to operate a barge cleaning facility for vessels carrying chemical products. The wash water from the operation was allegedly pumped into a wastewater treatment system, which consisted of a wash and cleaning area next to several docks which extended into Sabine Lake, a boiler house which heated the cleaning and wash water with a steam boiler, several vacuum tanks, a vacuum pump, above-ground storage tanks, and an open earthen diked surface impoundment(s) into which the barge chemical wastes and wash water were discharged.

### Health Considerations:

- Some of the contaminants present at the Site are known carcinogens.

### Other Environmental Risks:

- Sabine Lake is a fishery and is used for recreation. An abundance of wetland areas and a National Wildlife Refuge lie along the banks of the lake and downstream waterways.

## Record of Decision

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A Record of Decision has not been signed for the State Marine of Port Arthur Superfund Site.

## Community Involvement

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- Throughout the Superfund process, EPA will conduct a Public Involvement Program that will address the concerns and issues of importance to community members.
- Site Repository: Port Arthur Public Library, 4615 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Port Arthur, TX 77642

## Technical Assistance Grant

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- A Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) is for a local citizens' group to secure the services of a technical advisor to increase citizen understanding of information that will be developed about the Site during the Superfund process. By law, only one grant for up to \$50,000 may be awarded to a citizens' group for this Site. To be eligible for a grant, a group must incorporate. Also, the applicant must meet a 20 percent matching requirement, which may be in cash or donated services. If you are interested in applying for a TAG, please call Ms. Beverly Negri at (214) 665-8157 or toll-free at 1-800-533-3508.
- Newspaper Availability Notices:  
Palmer - 6/20/00, 8/28/00  
State Marine - 5/00, 7/00  
Availability of the TAG was announced in an update titled "State Marine of Port Arthur Site Update" (dated 11/11/98).
- Letters of Intent Received: 11/25/03  
Ms. Luverda Batiste  
Mentors Outlining Definitives for Earthly Living, (409) 982-9558.
- Grant Award: Applicant has been alerted that PRP process is still on-going and until enforcement first effort has been completed, no TAG can be awarded. Applicant alerted that one TAG application for State Marine and One for Palmer Barge must be submitted. A SOW needs to be submitted separately for Palmer and another one for State Marine. SOWs were due back to EPA within 60 days. As of 10/20/04, no revised SOWs have been received by EPA.
- Current Status: N/A

## Contacts

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### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

- **Remedial Project Manager:** Mr. Carlos A. Sanchez - (214) 665-8507\*.  
(Contact for Technical Questions)  
E-Mail Address - [sanchez.carlos@epa.gov](mailto:sanchez.carlos@epa.gov)
- **Remedial Project Manager:** Mr. Philip Allen - (214) 665-8516\*.  
(Contact for Technical Questions)  
E-Mail Address - [allen.philip@epa.gov](mailto:allen.philip@epa.gov)
- **Community Involvement:** Ms. Beverly Negri - (214) 665-8157\*.  
(Contact for Community Relations Questions)
- **Attorney:** Mr. Joseph Compton - (214) 665-8506\*.  
(Contact for Legal Questions)  
E-Mail Address - [compton.joseph@epa.gov](mailto:compton.joseph@epa.gov)
- **State Coordinator:** Ms. Karen Bond - (214) 665-6682\*.  
(Contact for State/EPA Agreements)  
E-Mail Address - [bond.karen@epa.gov](mailto:bond.karen@epa.gov)
- **\*Toll-Free Number:** 1-800-533-3508.

- **Region 6 Ombudsman:** Mr. Arnold Ondarza - (303) 312-6777

#### **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**

- **Project Manager:** Ms. Luda Voskov - (512) 239-6368.  
(Contact for Technical Questions)  
E-Mail Address - [lvoskov@tceq.state.texas.us](mailto:lvoskov@tceq.state.texas.us)

### **Present Status and Issues**

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- A time-critical removal action has been completed at the site. All liquid wastes in the above ground storage tanks have been removed and disposed of. The tanks were then decontaminated.
- A Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) began in the Fall of 2001 and the Remedial Investigation was completed in April 2003. The Feasibility Study is underway and should be completed by Summer of 2004. The purpose of the RI/FS is to gather sufficient information about the Site to support an informed risk management decision regarding which remedy is the most appropriate for the Site.
- EPA issued Special Notice (SN) for an RI/FS to the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) of the Site on October 29, 1998, and February 14, 2000. These SNs included an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) along with an RI/FS Statement of Work. This SN informed the PRPs that they may be liable for the cleanup of the Site. EPA requested reimbursement for past costs and a “good-faith offer” from the PRPs to perform the RI/FS with EPA oversight. The PRPs were not willing to perform the RI/FS. The EPA is proceeding with the EPA-funded RI/FS.
- EPA has requested information (through a 104[e] Information Request) about the Site from various entities to learn more about the Site and its operations.
- EPA has constructed fencing around the Site to prevent public access, which was initially unrestricted.

### **Benefits**

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- The cleanup of contamination present at the State Marine of Port Arthur Superfund Site will ensure the protection of human health and the environment.